Approved For Release 2005/06/13 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100010114-1

OUTGOING MESSAGE

PAGE | SCT | COORD | ACT | TOG | TPE | MRO | TRI | PAGES

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0 25X1

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL CIA/OCI 1/WHIZ 174126

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR | DATE-TIME GROUP | CITE | MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/NHSS

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

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3		6		9		12	

25X1

FLD 23

ITEM NO: 3 DATE: 26 JAN 74

SUBJECT: ICELAND--SOVIET PRESSURE OVER BASE RETENTION

25X1

THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN REYKJAVIK HAS THREATENED THAT MOSCOW WILL CUT OFF VITAL EXPORTS OF FUEL OIL TO ICELAND IN AN ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE SUPPORTERS OF THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE. 25X1

25X1 SOVIET OFFICIALS HAVE THREATENED THE ESSO IMPORTER AND THE LEADERS OF THE FISHERIES COOPERATIVES, AND ARE DRAGGING THEIR FEET IN NEGOTIATING NEW CONTRACTS FOR BUYING ICELANDIC FISH AND WOOLENS.

ALTHOUGH SOME FISHERIES COOPERATIVES OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED SOVIET PRESSURE TACTICS VIS-A-VIS THE INDEPENDENT-MINDED ICELANDERS COULD BACKFIRE IN THE LONG RUN. THE US EMBASSY IS

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State Department review completed

25X1

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR: CTA/OCI

DATE-TIME GROUP: AUG73267

CITE: FLUHSZ 7906

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

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TRYING TO CONVINCE ICELANDIC OFFICIALS THAT THE SOVIET THREAT RUNS COUNTER TO SOVIET OBJECTIVES ELSEWHERE AND IS A BLUFF.

THE SOVIET PRESSURE CAMPAIGN EVIDENTLY BEGAN ONLY AFTER SUPPORTERS OF THE IDF UNVEILED THEIR NATIONWIDE PETITION DRIVE. THE SOVIETS EITHER DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE BACKLASH POTENTIAL OF THEIR TACTICS, OR VIEW THE PETITION DRIVE AS SO SERIOUS THAT AN EXTREME RISK IS REQUIRED.

IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE SOVIETS WILL CARRY THROUGH WITH THEIR THREATS, GIVEN THE POLITICAL IMPACT SUCH A MOVE WOULD HAVE ON THEIR INTERNATIONAL STANDING AS A RELIABLE TRADING PARTNER. NONETHELESS, THEY MAY CALCULATE THAT THREATS OF THIS KIND WILL SERVE OVER THE LONGER TERM TO INCREASE ICELANDIC SENSITIVITIES OVER RETENTION

25X1 OF THE BASE.

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: N EUR DIV AND NIO

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